Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Projects Oct. 02 to Feb. 03	Employment (Nos.) Oct. 02 to Feb. 03
11.	Kerala	167	4067
12.	M.P.	121	2451
13.	Maharashtra	458	6446
14.	Manipur	4	99
15.	Meghalaya	28	609
16.	Mizoram	53	750
17.	Orissa	152	2113
18.	Punjab	587	21185
19.	Rajasthan	653	11348
20.	Sikkim	20	34
21.	Tamil Nadu	309	3444
22.	U.P.	569	15289
23.	West Bengal	1247	12944
24.	A & N Island	18	182
25.	Chandigarh	3	101
26.	Delhi	2	31
27.	Pondicherry	1	1
28.	Chhattisgarh	24	1029
29.	Jharkhand	9	74
30.	Uttaranchal	153	623
31.	Thro C.O.	1561	24846
	TOTAL:	8687	143251

Loan under PMRY in Maharashtra

3566. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the educated unemployed youth in Maharashtra who applied for loan under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana for setting up their own industrial units/business since the last two years;

(b) the number of such applications pending for approval; and

(c) the reasons for the delay, if any, and the steps Government have taken or propose to take for their speedy disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) As per the reports received from Government of Maharashtra, 1,34,148 educated unemployed youth applied for loan for setting up their own industrial/ business units during the last two years i.e. 2000-01 and 2001-02 in Maharashtra under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY).

(b) As per the latest reports received from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), 14,318 applications were pending with banks as on 31.12.02 under the Scheme.

(c) As per the PMRY norms, the applications to be sponsored to the banks should be equal to 125 per cent. of the target for each State/ UT. Therefore, at the end of any financial year, there are likely to be some pending applications. As per the instructions of the Government of India and the RBI, the pending applications are to be sponsored and processed in the following year.

Low Cost Irradiation Technique

3567. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether members of the Nuclear Club and developed countries have been using lowest cost irradiation technique for preservation of the consumable foods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have been marketing the irradiated food products originated from BARC;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of developed countries, have been using or have permitted the use of irradiation technique for food processing. The technique can be used for extension of shelf life, improving hygiene and health safety, and for overcoming quarantine barriers. The developed countries in question includes Australia, France, Japan, Netherlands, South Africa